

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 17, 2017

The Honorable Ryan Zinke  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary,

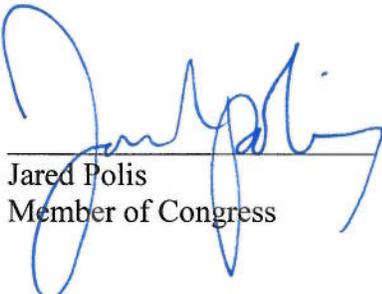
We write today in response to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Notice of Intent to Amend Land Use Plans Regarding Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation and Prepare Associated Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessment rule published in the Federal Register on October 11, 2017. Currently, the Notice of Intent only permits a 45-day comment period. We believe that this comment window is not sufficient for stakeholders and partners to prepare this type of comprehensive feedback. Therefore, we ask that the public comment period be extended an additional 45 days.

For nearly ten years, state and local partners worked to create comprehensive plans to mitigate wildfire risk on sagebrush and protect the sage grouse. Their efforts and collaboration created a solution that protected vital sage grouse habitat and eliminated the need for Endangered Species Act protection for the sage-grouse. Moreover, these plans ensured the protection of our western lands while maintaining vital incentives that assist landowners and livestock producers to manage and conserve sage grouse habitat on their lands.

It is clear that any attempt to rewrite or modify these plans must be done with attention to detail, and with input from state, local, and federal partners across the 11 Western states in a new collaborative process. Due to the complexity of the rule and the success of past collaboration, we believe that all stakeholders, from conservationists to ranchers, must be given ample opportunity to provide comprehensive feedback to the BLM.

We again urge that the public comment period be extended an additional 45 days.

Sincerely,



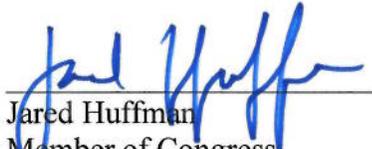
Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

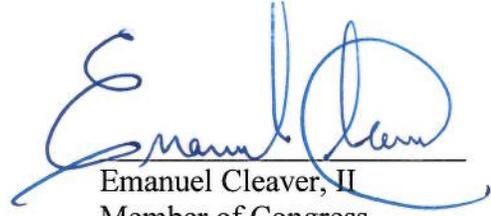


Ruben J. Kihuen  
Member of Congress

  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Ranking Member

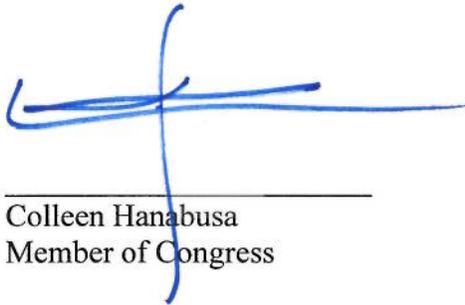
  
Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress

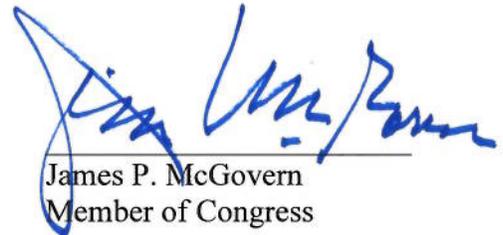
  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

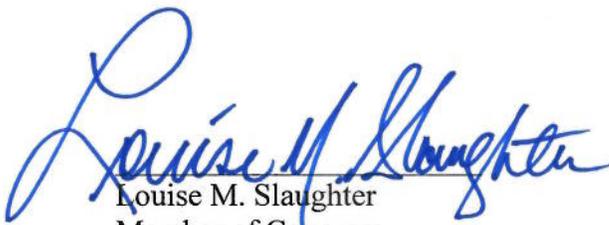
  
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

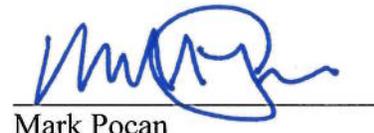
  
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

  
Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

  
Colleen Hanabusa  
Member of Congress

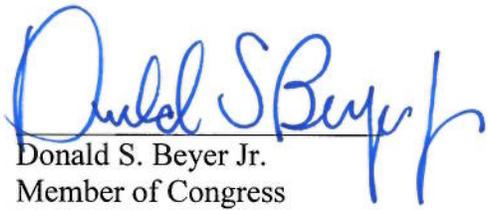
  
James P. McGovern  
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Louise M. Slaughter  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

  
Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

  
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

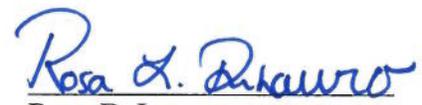
  
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

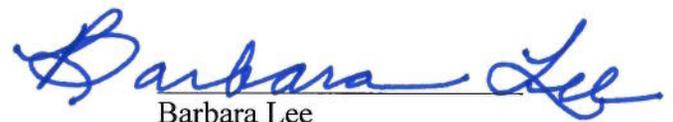
  
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

  
David Price  
Member of Congress

  
Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress

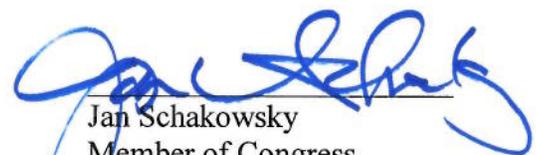
  
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

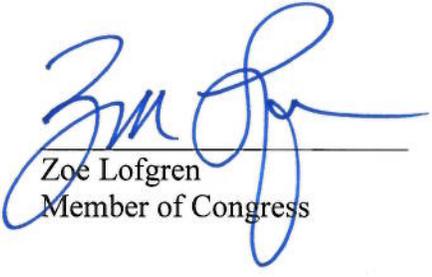
  
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

  
Tim Walz  
Member of Congress

  
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress

  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

  
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Zoe Lofgren', is positioned above a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress